



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Unilateral Administrative Order Gulfco Marine Maintenance Freeport, Texas

June 2005

This fact sheet will tell you about:

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- Site description
- Site history
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Present status and issues

On May 23, 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Gulfco Marine Maintenance Site (Site). The UAO was provided to the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) for the Site. The UAO is effective July 15, 2005. The action will determine the nature and extent of contamination as well as alternatives for remedial actions at the Site.

Site description

The Site is located approximately 3 miles northeast of the city of Freeport, Texas, at 906 Marlin Avenue. The Site lies within the 100-year coastal flood plain along the north bank of the Intra-coastal Waterway between Oyster Creek to the east and the Old Brazos River Channel and the Dow Barge Canal to the west.

The Site is approximately 40 acres in size, and the southern part of the Site drains to the south where it enters the Intra-coastal Waterway. Wetland areas are located North of the Site. The Chicot/Evangeline Aquifer system, which is a source of municipal and smaller public water supply systems in the Freeport area, underlies the Site.

Site history

The Site operated as a barge cleaning and waste disposal facility from 1971 through 1979, then as a barge cleaning and offshore platform construction facility until 1989, and finally as a barge cleaning and refurbishing facility until 1998. Operations at the facility involved the cleaning, servicing, and repair of various types of barges, particularly chemical. Chemical barges were drained and pumped to remove remaining materials, which were then stored in tanks and sold as product. Each barge was washed with water or a detergent solution. Generated wash waters were stored until 1982 either in surface impoundments, a floating barge, or on-Site storage tanks. The barges were allowed to air dry prior to initiating repair work such as welding and sandblasting.

The Site was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 2, 2002, and included on the NPL on May 30, 2003.

Waste

The Site encompassed three buried and backfilled surface impoundments that received contaminated wash water from the barge cleaning operations, areas of contaminated soil, and releases to surface water and ground water. Contaminants include among other things 1,2-Dichloroethane, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and metals. While a Site Screening Inspection sampling event was conducted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in January 2000 and a subsequent Expanded Site Inspection was also conducted by TCEQ in January 2001, the exact volumes of wastes discovered at the Site have yet to be determined. This information will be obtained during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study.

For more information, please contact.....

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Information Repositories.....

Freeport Branch Library
410 Brazosport Blvd.
Freeport, TX 77541
979-233-3622
Ms. Margaret Janke

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Records Management Center
12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. E
Austin, TX 78753-3087

U.S. EPA Region 6 Library
1445 Ross Avenue, Ste. 12D13
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